

[0047] The fixed side hood 11, has an internal space with the front opened in a half moon shape and positioned so as to cover the rear end portion of the reel foot placing surface 5a. The internal space narrows as it progresses rearward.

[0048] Overall, the trigger 13 is in the vicinity of the rear end of the lower portion 5b of the circumferential surface of the main portion 5 of the reel seat 1, and protrudes downward and rearward from substantially immediately below the portion of the rear side opposite the reel foot placing surface 5a. Specifically, this protruding direction is approximately 30° with respect to a direction perpendicular to a center axis X-X (this is a center axis of the fishing rod 21) of the main portion 5 (see Fig. 2).

[0049] As shown in Fig. 3, the width of the trigger 13 is slightly narrowed as it goes to the tip end side. However, it is slightly narrower than the external diameter of the body 3. Therefore, compared to the conventional trigger "f", the width of the trigger 13 is quite large.

[0050] Additionally, the tip portion of the front surface 13a of the trigger 13 has a sliding prevention protrusion 13c which protrudes toward the front. As clarified from Fig. 2, the front surface 13a excluding the sliding protrusion 13c is concave so that, overall, a moderate arc is formed. An average inclination angle of the front surface 13a is also extended in a backward-downward direction, forming approximately a 30° opening with respect to a direction perpendicular to the center axis X-X of the main portion 5.

[0051] Furthermore, the portion 14, at which the front surface 13a and the lower portion 5b of the body 3 connect, is bent so as to form an arc. A user's finger(s) placed on the front surface 13a and a finger(s) placed on the lower portion 5a can be arranged without any significant gap.

[0052] Furthermore, a corner angle portion 15, at which the rear surface 13b of the trigger 13 and the lower portion 5b of the body 3 are connected is bent so as to form an arc with a diameter of approximately 20 mm. The side surface of a user's finger can be placed here without feeling awkward.

[0053] Including the connection portion 14, the length of the front surface 13a excluding the sliding prevention protrusion 13c, has a length in which two fingers of an adult of medium size can be placed as shown in Fig. 5.

[0054] Furthermore, because of the trigger's 13 protruding position, protruding direction, and the length of the front surface 13a, a user's fingers placed on the sliding prevention protrusion 13c are positioned somewhat behind a position immediately below the rear end portion of the reel foot placing surface 5a (see Fig. 5).

5 [0055] The movable hood 16 is constituted by a hood portion 17 which has a substantially cylindrical shape in which the axial length is relatively shorter than the diameter. A nut 19 is rotatably connected to the hood 17 from the rear side. The upper portion of the rear end portion of the hood portion 17 has a radius larger than the remaining portion and has a flat reel foot insertion opening 17a. Furthermore, the
10 reel foot insertion opening 17a faces the rear side direction. The nut 19 is engaged to the engaging axis portion 9 of the body 3, and the hood portion 17 is prevented from being rotated by an undepicted engaging protrusion engaged to an engaging groove of the main portion 5.

B. Mounting of a fishing rod and a reel seat

15 [0056] The reel seat 1 is fixed to the fishing rod body 25 by inserting a portion of the fishing rod body, forming a base of the fishing rod 21 through hole 7 of the body 3. Furthermore, a long cylindrical handle 27 is externally engaged and fixed to the portion which protrudes in the rear direction from the body 3.

20 [0057] Furthermore, a front handle 29, which also prevents removal of the movable hood 16, is fixed to the front end portion of the body 3, leaving a sliding area for the movable hood 16.

[0058] The trigger 13 is integrally formed with the body 3 of the reel seat 1. Therefore, the reel seat 1 is fixed to the fishing rod body 25, so the position and the angle on the fishing rod 21 are fixed.

25 [0059] When the reel 31 is mounted, as one end portion of the fixing foot 33 is inserted to the fixed side hood 11, the fixing foot 33 is placed on the reel foot placing surface 5a. The reel 31 is then moved in a rearward direction as the nut 19 of the movable hood 16 is rotated. By so doing, the other end portion of the fixing foot 33 inserted into the movable hood 16, and the respective movable and fixed hoods 16
30 and 11 function together to hold the fixing foot 33 against the reel foot placing surface 5a.

C. Handling of a fishing rod and operation of a trigger Figs. 4-6, 14

[0060] Casting and palming with this fishing pole 21 are basically performed as follows.

[0061] As shown in Figs. 4 and 5, during casting, when a user's palm (right arm is shown in the figure) is placed against the side surface of the handle 27 and the rear end portion of the body 3, the tip of the thumb is placed against the spool 35 of the reel 31 substantially from the rear side. At the same time, the user's index finger and middle finger are placed together, and the inside of the second joint of these fingers is placed on the front surface 13a (including the connection portion 14) of the trigger 13. The user's third finger is placed on the corner angle portion 15.

[0062] The shape of the user's hand in this state is substantially the same as the shape in which fingers other than the thumb are folded in a U shape when a wrist is slightly bent without any force, and the index finger and the thumb are opened at 60°. Therefore, even if a user's wrist or elbow is not bent in an unnatural angle, a fishing rod can be firmly gripped by four fingers other than the thumb and palm when the fishing rod body 25 is substantially parallel to the user's arm. Furthermore, the user places two fingers on the trigger 13. Additionally, the width of the trigger 13 is much larger than the conventional trigger "f" described before. Therefore, unlike a protruding shape in which a user can only place one finger, as in the conventional trigger "f", the body 3 and the handle 27 can be strongly pulled to the palm. At the same time, sliding is prevented.

[0063] Therefore, a user can have a strong grip. At the same time, the fishing rod can be held stably, so casting can be accurately controlled.

[0064] Furthermore, during palming, as shown in Figs. 6 and 14(B), the tip of the user's thumb is placed on the top end of the periphery of the side wall of the reel 31, and the fourth finger is placed on the sliding prevention protrusion 13c of the trigger 13. A wide range, from the trigger 13 to the body 3, is gripped by the user's four fingers other than the thumb, so as to be supported from the bottom.

[0065] With respect to the position of the user's hand in this state, the wrist is not bent in an unnatural position. Therefore, as shown in Fig. 6, even during palming with the fishing rod 21 positioned in a frontward and downward direction, the wrist can be bent naturally without any force.